

Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean J. Trantalis Announces Additional Proactive Measures in Response to Coronavirus

 [Read the Mayor's Update](#)

 [Read the Amended Declaration of Emergency Regulations](#)

 [View Video of the Announcement](#)

March 17, 2020 – Today at a press conference at City Hall, Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean J. Trantalis announced additional proactive measures the City is taking in response to COVID-19.

The measures are being put in place for the protection of the community, visitors, and employees to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the healthcare system is not overwhelmed. The City will continue to assess the situation and make changes as necessary.

The following measures are effective immediately and will remain in effect through April 16, 2020:

-All public gatherings of any type, whether organized or otherwise, of greater than 10 persons are prohibited. Exemptions include grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores, banks, credit unions, financial institutions, hardware stores, auto supply stores, hospitals, healthcare and medical facilities, pharmacies, drug stores, medical supply companies, as well as land or facilities owned and managed by Broward County, the Broward County School Board, the North Broward Hospital District, the State of Florida, and the Federal Government.

-All bars, nightclubs, taverns, pubs, cocktail lounges, breweries, dance halls, movie theaters, halls for hire, auditoriums, bowling alleys, video arcades, and other like entertainment facilities and businesses, including but not limited to those contained within a hotel or other enclosed facility or structure, shall close.

-All gyms, fitness centers, fitness studios, dance studios, and gymnasiums shall close. This regulation shall not apply to gymnasiums, fitness centers, and fitness studios which: (a) are amenities of hotels or office buildings and which have a capacity of 10 persons or less; and (b) are an amenity of residential buildings.

-All restaurants, cafeterias, and other food service establishments are mandated to cease all on-premises service. However, such establishments may continue to operate their kitchens for drive-thru, delivery, take-out, and exterior pick-up food services.

-All City parks, including recreational facilities, are closed.

-All public beaches in the City of Fort Lauderdale, from the Atlantic Ocean to the easternmost sidewalk of A 1A or to any right-of-way or property line abutting the beach, and from Oakland Park Boulevard south to Harbor Drive, as more specifically defined in Section 8-52, Code of Ordinances, City of Fort Lauderdale remain closed.

-All meetings of the City Commission, City boards, including all advisory and statutory boards, City committees and City working groups are postponed;

-All Special Magistrate, Code Enforcement, Board of Adjustment, Nuisance Abatement Board hearings, and Community Court are postponed;

-All homeowner association and civic association meetings conducted or held on City property are postponed;

-All City events, including but not limited to, events approved pursuant to Chapter 15, Article V, Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale are postponed; and

-All City recreational programs, facility rentals, and organized sports leagues are postponed.

CITY OPERATIONS

For the health and safety of our employees and neighbors, effective at 5:01 p.m. on March 17, 2020 and continuing through Tuesday, March 31, 2020, all non-essential City operations will be suspended, except for the following:

- Public Safety and Emergency Services

- Public Works/Sanitation Services*
- Building Department Inspection Services
- Essential support services including Payroll, Finance, and Fleet
- City owned and operated cemeteries

*Water and wastewater services are ***not*** affected by the coronavirus outbreak. These essential services will continue without interruption. During this challenging situation, as people are spending more time at home, please [help us prevent sanitary sewer overflows](#).



NEVER FLUSH these items down the toilet:

- Tampons and other feminine hygiene products
- Baby Wipes/Wet Wipes/Cleaning Pads
- Dental Floss
- Q-tips/Cotton Balls
- Diapers
- Paper Towels/Tissues
- Hair
- Cigarette butts
- Condoms
- Kitty Litter



When flushed down the toilet, these items bind together and may cause sewage backups in homes, manhole overflows and failures at sewage pumping stations, costing thousands of dollars to repair.

Only human waste and toilet paper should be flushed. Even though some products such as wipes and baby diapers may claim to be flushable, they are not.

Everyone can be a potential contributor to sewer problems and a potential victim of those problems.

If you see a sewer overflow, contact the City of Fort Lauderdale's 24-Hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000 or visit the Launderserv page on the City website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/launderserv to submit a service request.



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



CAN THE GREASE

Pouring cooking oil down the drain can lead to smelly and costly troubles ahead



Fats, oils and greases are the leading cause of sewer line clogs and sewer main overflows in Fort Lauderdale. Clogged sewer lines can back-up into houses, spill onto roadways and into our waterways, creating hazards for humans, fish and wildlife.

With improper disposal down the kitchen drain, greasy leftovers can quickly turn foul, leading to disruptive and smelly back-ups in the sanitary wastewater system.

PREVENT COSTLY PLUMBING REPAIRS:

- Pour cooking oils into old cans, milk containers or other packages and dispose in your black garbage cart.
- Use a paper towel to wipe dishes and pots to remove grease prior to washing.
- Place fat trimmings from meat in your black trash cart, not your garbage disposal.

If you observe a sewer spill from the City's sanitary wastewater system, report it immediately by calling 954-828-8000.

For more information on how you can "Green Your Routine" visit: www.fortlauderdale.gov/GYR



If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call (954) 828-4755 or email strategiccommunications@fortlauderdale.gov.

Customer Service

Neighbors may contact the City's 24-Hour Customer Service Center by calling 954-828-8000 or by using the LauderServ app or visiting www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderserv.

Building Permits and Inspections

The City's online platform, [Lauderbuild](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderbuild), is available free of charge 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Lauderbuild can provide access to permit information, fee payments, scheduling of inspections, and much more. You can find Lauderbuild on the City's webpage, by simply doing an online search for "Lauderbuild" or visiting www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderbuild.

Parking Customer Service

The Parking Customer Service Office will be closed until further notice and phone calls will be routed to the City's general customer service number. Parking permits for the month of March will be extended and valid until April permits become available for sale; permit sales will resume once the parking customer service office reopens. Parking citation payments and account modifications may be made at www.fortlauderdale.gov/parking. If you have any questions, please email Parking Customer Service at parkingservices@fortlauderdale.gov.

Utility Billing

Utility billing staff will be available by phone at 954-828-5150 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Neighbors can call utility billing to ask questions, open a new utility account, or make a payment. Utility billing payments may also be made online at www.fortlauderdale.gov/utilitybilling and at the drive-thru kiosk on the east side of City Hall, which is located at 100 North Andrews Avenue.

Water and Wastewater Services

Water and wastewater services will continue to be provided.

Online City Services

Neighbors are encouraged to utilize Fort Lauderdale's online services to conduct business. Please visit the LauderServ page on the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/lauderserv for information about a variety of online services including utility billing, parking and transportation, code compliance, building permits, human resources, and more.

Department of Health Information

As a reminder, individuals with questions related to the coronavirus should call the Florida Department of Health's Coronavirus Call Center at 1-866-779-6121 which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week or email COVID-19@flhealth.gov. Individuals who are concerned that they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should call 954-412-7300 before traveling to any health care facility.

For Additional Information

For additional information about the coronavirus, please visit www.coronavirus.gov or www.floridahealthcovid19.gov.

Ways to Stay in Touch

The City of Fort Lauderdale offers numerous ways for neighbors to receive important information and updates:

- Monitor the City website at www.fortlauderdale.gov
- Register for [CodeRED alerts](#)
- If you live in Fort Lauderdale, join [NextDoor](#)
- Follow us on Twitter [@FTLCityNews](#)
- Like us on Facebook [@CityofFortLauderdale](#)
- Get [E-news delivered to your inbox](#)
- Download the [Lauderserv App](#) on your smartphone or tablet
- Contact our 24-hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000